

2.14 May 1861
Mount some
copies of - Water
Journal

Bishop Paget

(5 copies)

5/18/61
Journal

Pain

History (1861)

and also this

ery truly,

Heise
ry

W.P.

36 Alpine Street

Rochester 7

Two Forks

27 November

✓

Dear Emma,

There are no words to express the shock I felt at the untimely unexpected loss of our dear Rob. Rob was so completely alive that no one could well associate the thought of death with him. I was sure that with you, who tried him best, that is the last word you would, ever, ever, think of in connection with him. Your parting was not a 'goodbye'. In a letter I wrote him following in love of your letter to him, I referred to an incident when we all were in a Sunday afternoon walk, and had noted how Pleasant kept stopping to gather flowers by the roadside. In his reply Rob wrote: "We shall find her again in the land of light, her hands full of the flowers that grow round about the feet of Christ." I think it was

Lilieb Barbourd who wrote at the end of
her "Life I know not what thou art" -
"I saw not goodnight, but in some bright
shimmer bid me goodmorning". If you sit
down ~~on~~ ^{at} ~~your~~ ^{the} ~~table~~ ^{table}, that
was the farewell between you and Rob,
in a high room of death and in the
higher faith, that life is no loss of death,
that you can never lose it's own?
I know there will be days and nights of
great loneliness, but they will not overwhelm
you.

I would not intrude further into
your sorrow, the memories flood from
Pimenton days on. Rob's work was far
beyond my feeble praise. The evidence
you see about your husband is high spirit:
his "inspiring personal life", so I should use
a different adjective, his radiant life.
He was very kind to me.

In sincere sympathy.

Affectionately yours

Geo. J. Berry

APJ
Dear Mrs. Speer.

The enclosed clipping was cut from the Lynchburg News - I think it significant, that it appeared in the editorial column on this, our Thanksgiving morning.

Again with loving thoughts of you both.

Saith Dimples

Nov 27 1947



A MISSÃO PRESBITERIANA DO BRASIL CENTRAL

Endereço Telegrafico
"INCULCATE"

The Central Brasil Mission
of the
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

SÃO PAULO, BRASIL

ESCRITORIO DO SECRETARIO
Telefone, 4-7876

PRAÇA DA REPUBLICA, 419
APT.º 10

July 29, 1948.

Mrs. Robert E. Speer

My dear Mrs. Speer:

I take pleasure in transmitting to you the following action of the Central Brazil Mission:

'Memorial Minute
Dr. Robert E. Speer

The Mission recalls with deep gratitude the forty-six years of faithful service which Dr. Speer so unreservedly devoted to the cause of foreign missions in general and to our work in particular. His visits to our fields were an inspiration to us and to our groups of believers, and resulted in large and constructive plans for the expansion and betterment of our work. As our Board Secretary he was always kindly and helpful in correspondence with our Mission and in personal interviews with us. Many of our missionaries in Brazil, as well as in other countries, owe in large measure, their interest in foreign missions to the potent influence of Dr. Speer. The impact of his great personality on the cause of missions is incalculable. All of us came under the influence of his Christian example and leadership. The memory of Dr. Robert E. Speer; of his absolute devotion to Christ and to His cause in the world will abide with us always and will be a constant incentive to us in our work to endeavor to serve our Master with the same devotion that was such a marked characteristic of his noble lifework."

This action was spread on the July 1947 Minutes of the Central Brazil Mission at its first meeting since the death of our honored and revered Dr. Speer. I trust this memorial minute may add something to the comfort which I am sure you have derived from the innumerable testimonies of esteem which you no doubt have received.

Most sincerely yours,

H. P. Midkiff

H. P. Midkiff
Executive Secretary

A MISSÃO PRESBITERIANA DO BRASIL CENTRAL

SÃO PAULO, BRASIL

The Central Brazil Mission
of the

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

Endereço Telefônico
"INCULCATE"

PRAÇA DA REPÚBLICA, 419
APT. 10

ESCRITÓRIO DO SECRETÁRIO
Telefone, 4-1816

Arquitetura

Aug 26

1945

[Faint, mostly illegible typed text, possibly a letter or report]

[Handwritten signature]

**AMERICAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS**


INCORPORATED 1812

14 BEACON STREET

BOSTON 8, MASS.

OFFICE OF
FRED FIELD GOOSELL,
EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT
MISS R. C. PERKINS,
OFFICE SECRETARY

December 12, 1947


Mrs. Robert E. Speer
c/o Board of Foreign Missions
of the Presbyterian Church
156 Fifth Avenue
New York 10, N. Y.

Dear Mrs. Speer:

At the last meeting of the Prudential Committee which occurred December 9, I told the Committee of the passing of your beloved husband. Several of those present had known him in his most active years. I personally have regarded him, ever since student days early in the century, as one of my spiritual mentors and heroes. His life and service have enriched thousands and tens of thousands of students and Christian workers around the world. We honor him and bow our heads in reverence and in gratitude as we contemplate his passing to the realms of light. I was instructed by the Prudential Committee to write you and express our sympathy with you as you and your family lose him from your physical sight and companionship. Neither you nor we will mourn in the ordinary sense of that word. We know Him in whom we have believed and know that Dr. Speer is with Christ in God.

May God bless you and keep you. May He cause His face to shine upon you and give you peace.

Yours sincerely,



Executive Vice-President

FFG/RCP

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY
BIBLE HOUSE, PARK AVENUE AND FIFTY-SEVENTH STREET
NEW YORK CITY

December 9, 1947

Mrs. Robert Elliott Speer
Lakesville, Connecticut

Dear Mrs. Speer:

At the meeting of the Board of Managers of the American Bible Society, held at the Bible House on Thursday, December 4, I was instructed to convey to you and your family through the enclosed Memorial Minute the sincere expression of sympathy of the officers and Board in the loss of your esteemed husband.

The Christian world has lost one of its valiant leaders in Dr. Speer's going and we who are seeking to spread the Word of God must share this tragic loss. We rejoice, however, in the long years of wise counsel and effective service which Dr. Speer rendered to every branch of the church's world mission.

May the Lord whom you have both served so loyally through the decades comfort and guide you in the coming days.

Sincerely yours,

Francis C. Stifler

Recording Secretary

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY
BIBLE HOUSE, PARK AVENUE AND FIFTY-SEVENTH STREET
NEW YORK CITY

MEMORIAL MINUTE
OF THE
BOARD OF MANAGERS
OF THE
AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

By the death of Dr. Robert Elliott Speer on November 23, 1947, the American Bible Society lost one of its staunchest friends and one of its most loyal and persuasive advocates. Dr. Speer was elected a vice-president of the Society in 1927. During his long years of Christian service he was a firm believer in the Society and promoted its work throughout the world.

From 1891 to 1937 Dr. Speer was executive secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. He was president of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America from 1920 to 1924. In 1927 he was elected moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A., and was the first layman to hold that office. Though he was never ordained a minister Dr. Speer was given the degree of Doctor of Divinity by the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1910, and he was frequently a guest preacher in Presbyterian churches throughout the country. At the time of his retirement from active duty as senior secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions Dr. Speer was active on more than thirty committees and interdenominational organizations. During World War I he was a member of the Advisory Committee on Religious and Moral Activities of the Army and Navy.

During his 46 years with the Presbyterian Foreign Board Dr. Speer travelled widely to supervise missionary work on the field. He made numerous trips to China, to various Latin American countries, to Persia, India, Korea, Japan, Siam, and the Philippine Islands. He represented his board at international missionary conferences at Edinburgh, Panama, Montevideo, and Jerusalem. He was a firm believer in the value of the Bible in the missionary activities of the church and gave support to the Bible Societies in his travels across the world and in the great international missionary conferences in which he was always an outstanding figure.

The Board and the officers of the American Bible Society extend their expression of profound sympathy to his beloved wife and their son and daughters. Their loss is ours also, and we, too, are greatly bereaved by his passing.

Francis C. Stifler
Recording Secretary

The Presbytery of Brooklyn-Nassau

130 CLINTON STREET
BROOKLYN 2, N. Y.

Telephone: TRIangle 5-3173

REV. WARD G. GYPSON, D.D.
Moderator of Presbytery

LOUIS N. ROWLEY, *Treasurer*
Trustees of Presbytery & Church Extension

REV. HERBERT H. FIELD, D.D.
Executive and Stated Clerk
Executive, Church Extension

REV. ALVIN E. MAGARY, D.D.
President, Church Extension

FRANK C. MOFFAT
President, Trustees of Presbytery

November 25, 1947

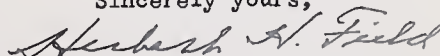
My dear Mrs. Speer:

Our Presbytery at its meeting yesterday afternoon was informed of the death of Dr. Speer and this word came as a profound shock to all of the one hundred members present.

We recognize, as do millions of Christian people not only in our own Church, but throughout the Christian world, that Dr. Speer was a distinguished leader whose service to Christ and His Church is beyond measure.

Presbytery instructed me to convey to you its sincerest sympathy and to assure you that you have its prayers for strength and comfort in this hour of your bereavement.

Sincerely yours,



Herbert H. Field
Executive and Stated Clerk

Mrs. Robert E. Speer
Lakeville
Connecticut

MEMORIAL MINUTE

With profound sorrow and a sense of irreparable loss, the Board of Trustees makes record of the death of its beloved and esteemed President, Robert Elliott Speer, D.D., L.L.D., Litt.D., at Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, on November 23, 1947. Each individual member has lost the earthly fellowship of a cherished personal friend. The Board of Trustees and the Seminary have lost a truly great and trusted leader.

The Board would express to Mrs. Speer and the other members of the family its prayerful sympathy in their bereavement and its gratitude to Almighty God for His assurance in Christ Jesus of eternal life and everlasting fellowship in His heavenly home.

Dr. Speer was born in Huntingdon, Pennsylvania, on September 10, 1867. After studying in public and private schools in Huntingdon, he graduated from Phillips Academy at Andover, Massachusetts, in 1885, and in 1889 from Princeton University, then still called The College of New Jersey.

While in College he came under the influence of, and became one of the leaders in, the Missionary Movement among students, and was led to dedicate his life to the world mission of the Church. In 1890, he entered The Theological Seminary at Princeton, but in 1891, early in his second year, he was called by the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. to become one of its Executive Secretaries. Thus, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, began a career in World Evangelism and Kingdom Statesmanship which has been written large in the history of the Christian Church of our time.

This call to the service of the Board of Foreign Missions prevented him from completing his theological course and graduating from the Seminary. Nevertheless, he never lost interest either in Theology or in the work of the Seminary. His brilliant mind, stored with rich treasures acquired by indefatigable study, made him one of the world's truly great theological thinkers and preachers.

His keen incisive intellect, his broad cultural experience, his uncompromising integrity, his spiritual fervency, and his triumphant faith made him a veritable God-appointed apostle to a generation of students baffled and confused by a struggle between materialistic sophistry and ecclesiastical dogmatism.

At the same time his prophetic vision and administrative genius made him one of the Church's greatest missionary statesmen. For forty-six years he continued to lead in the work of the Board of Foreign Missions until he was elected as Secretary-Emeritus in 1938. He was also called to many other positions of leadership both in his own denomination and in the life of the ecumenical church. In 1910 he was chosen chairman of the Committee on Cooperation in Latin America and in that capacity had a large part in focussing the attention of United Protestantism upon the spiritual needs of Central and South America. In 1927 he was elected by acclamation as Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., the second person ever to occupy that office who was not an ordained clergyman. In 1920 he was elected President of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America. In the truest sense Robert E. Speer was a global Christian.

His retirement from active service on the executive staff of the Board of Foreign Missions did not mean any diminution of his energy or activity in his Lord's service.

Rather it meant releasing him from administrative responsibilities to a broader service in evangelism through the written and spoken word. All the stored up riches of a lifetime of study in the Scriptures and in the whole wide realm of human literature, illuminated and inspired by a cultivated intimacy with his beloved and adored Saviour, were shared, in humble self-giving friendliness, with an ever enlarging circle of eager listeners and readers. Thus perhaps the closing years of his earthly service were the most fruitful and blessed of all his life.

Dr. Speer's service to Princeton Theological Seminary was marked by that same spirit of self-giving devotion and dauntless faith which he demonstrated in every activity to which he was called by the Lord of his life.

In 1914 he was elected to the Board of Directors of the Seminary and continued to serve in that capacity until that Board was discontinued by action of the General Assembly in 1929. In that year, as the Seminary was reorganized under a single Board of Trustees, he was immediately elected to its membership. He brought to the work of this board the wealth of his experience, administrative wisdom and spiritual leadership. In 1935 he was elected as its Vice-President, succeeding Mr. Thomas W. Synnott. Two years later, in 1937, he was chosen to succeed Dr. William L. McEwan as President and by the unanimous and insistent choice of his fellow members, continued in that office until the time of his death.

He carried his truly Pauline missionary motivation, vision and statesmanship into the work of the Board and of the Seminary as he did into every task which he undertook. To serve under his leadership has been a constant inspiration and challenge to ever enlarging achievement in Christ's Kingdom Enterprise.

His call to higher service has brought a sense of loneliness and loss in the fellowship of earth. But it has also brought heaven nearer and inspired a new sense of confidence and comfort in the "communion of saints."

"Great Heart is dead, they say --
What is death to such a one as Great Heart?
One sigh, perchance, for work unfinished here --
Then a swift passing to a mightier sphere,
New joys, perfected powers, the vision clear,
And all the amplitude of heaven to work
The work he held so dear.

A soul so fiery sweet can never die
But lives and loves to all eternity."

Board of Trustees

THE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

ROBERT E. SPEER, *President*
ROCKLEDGE
LAKEVILLE, CONNECTICUT

BENJAMIN F. FARBER, *Secretary*
631 WEST END AVENUE
NEW YORK 24, N.Y.

*Acknowledged
Feb. 23rd
1948
(Paid - Feb. 20th)*

February 18, 1948

Dear Mrs. Speer:

I wish that you could have been present at the meeting of the Board of Trustees today. It was one of the most moving experiences in all of my life. Each and every member of the Board admired and loved your dear husband very much, and there was a real spiritual participation as the Memorial Minute was read and the prayer was offered.

I am sending to you the Memorial Minute which was prepared and read by Dr. Peter K. Emmons. The prayer was offered by Dr. Minot C. Morgan.

We are all thinking of you in these days of readjustment and we pray that the sustaining grace of our Lord may be with you always.

With my fond regards to you and your family, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Benjamin F. Farber

Mrs. Robert E. Speer
825 Montgomery Avenue
Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania

CHAPEL, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1947

Miss Steen and Miss Strayer were both on the platform.

Miss Steen spoke informally beside the lectern announcing the death of Father Speer after a few days' illness, designating him as "a prince of the church", telling the girls that when you returned to the school last time this anxiety was in your heart, and that the way they could best express their sympathy and affection at this time would be to hold the school firm and steady in the way you would wish it to go.

Miss Strayer spoke on the Second Commandment. "Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image - Thou shalt not bow down thyself unto them nor serve them." She spoke of the kinds of graven images we are apt to have these days - money, science, business, fame, power - even high grades. Some say why not have both? There is a danger in "easy tolerance" that blurs all distinctions. Tolerance can easily become a glorified indifference. A man must choose - no man can serve two masters. Our great need today is to seek the truth and to follow with a burning faith our deep convictions.

She then read a paragraph from Dr. Trueblood and concluded with a statement to the fact that it was not until after she had prepared her chapel talk that the news of Dr. Speer's passing had come to her, but that she could not have chosen a more appropriate topic because he was a noble example of just the faith she was speaking of. She told of his being one of the regular ministers who came to her college, of how he had influenced student thinking of many generations; of his being a man of deep and great convictions, who served only the Living God in whom he had complete faith; of his eagerness to share his knowledge and love of God with the whole world; of his having been a true "one-world" citizen. She spoke of his book on devotions which she thought many already had and others might like to get, that they might share his work and his faith.

She ended with the prayers as copied on the following page.

O Thou who art the Light of the minds that know thee, the Life of the souls that love thee, and the Strength of the wills that serve thee, help us so to know thee that we may truly love thee, so to love thee that we may fully serve thee, whom to serve is perfect freedom; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

O Heavenly Father, we have loved thee, but not enough; we have sought thee, but not diligently; we have seen but not perceived, we have heard but not understood, we have hoped for things heavenly but clung to things of earth, and our hearts have been far from thee, the Holy One. Draw them now in mercy unto thyself, O God, that the time to come be not as the past, but that finding, perceiving, understanding and loving thee, we may have rest and joy undisturbed forevermore; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

(The service was lovely, appropriate, and I believe the girls were deeply impressed.)

In Memoriam

DR. ROBERT E. SPEER

We thank our God most humbly and devoutly for the life of our brother beloved Robert E. Speer who on the 23rd day of November, in the words honored by time and use, passed from the Church Militant into the Church Triumphant. Our remembrance of him, warm with affection and most vividly alive with admiration, is here recorded. It is with deep gratitude that we recall at once his intimate association with us as Elder of this church and the immeasurably great service he rendered to the Church throughout the world.

Every great era in Christian history is marked by some over-arching enthusiasm which again is most distinctly and rightly imagined in the deeds and words of certain men and women who both embodied that enthusiasm and gave to it its most characteristic motion and achievement. In the truly great age of the modern missionary enterprise there was no greater servant of Christ than this our friend. Good companions he had -- high in fame and of great power. Yet if one name were sought which should bring to mind by the mere mention of it, the whole magnificence of high intention and grand expectation and noble accomplishment, we, his friends and fellow servants, dare to say that the name so spoken would be that of Robert E. Speer. And not one of those who were his fellow workers but would gladly consent to this preeminence of service in the cause to which all were equally devoted.

How remarkable was the combined tenacity and serenity with which he held fast the historic Christian doctrine. As in the propagation of the faith abroad, so in his preaching of it at home, every speech and every sermon sent abroad the glory and the splendor of this faith. He was wise enough, though at times doubtless not a little sad with his wisdom, to know that the poverty of pagan idolatry could often be matched by the spiritual emptiness of lives brought up in and surrounded by the heaped up wealth of Christian ideas and Christian aims. We know from happy experience that he always spoke to edification, and that when the last word of any discourse of his was followed by that silence which always preceded his closing prayer, hearts were strong again in all who heard his voice.

He was indeed dear to us all. May God help us to be more worthy of our place in the goodly company of all such faithful souls.

Adopted by Session of First Presbyterian Church on
November 25, 1947.

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK
CHURCH OFFICE • 12 WEST 12th STREET
NEW YORK 11, N. Y.

Telephone: ALgonquin 4-5946

J. V. MOLDENHAWER

MINISTERS
JOSEPH R. SIZOO

JOHN O. MELLIN

40 Wall Street
New York 5, New York
December 5, 1947

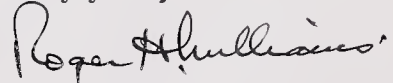
Dear Mrs. Speer:

The sad news of Dr. Speer's death came as a real blow to the Session of the First Presbyterian Church in which he had long been a beloved and valued colleague.

The enclosed memorial note was unanimously adopted; and, as instructed, I am sending it to you.

It comes with my personal sympathy to you, dear lady, and with every friendly thought.

Faithfully yours,



RHW:J

Mrs. Robert E. Speer
Rockledge
Lakeville, Connecticut

PAXTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
(FOUNDED ABOUT 1716)

PAXTANG
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

RESOLUTION
BY THE
SESSION
OF
PAXTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

INASMUCH as it has pleased an All-wise Providence to call to his eternal rest our loyal and beloved friend, Robert E. Speer, who has always been a zealous worker for the best interests of Christ's Kingdom, AND in whose passing we realize that the Church has lost one who was always generous with his valued advice and gave of his time unsparingly, NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Session of Paxton Presbyterian Church, Paxtang, Pennsylvania, assembled in its regular meeting the twenty-fourth day of November, 1947, record its great loss in being deprived of the wise counsel and companionship of our beloved friend, who especially endeared himself to us by addressing the 200th Anniversary Celebration of this historic congregation in the year 1940; BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution in full be made a part of our minutes and a copy be sent to his wife.

J. Hoffer Detweiler
Clerk of Session

Morton G. Glise
Moderator

Presbytery of Chicago

8 SOUTH DEARBORN STREET, CHICAGO 3, ILLINOIS

TELEPHONE RANDOLPH 1774

December 9, 1947

Mrs. Robert E. Speer
Rock Ledge
Lakeville, Connecticut

Dear Mrs. Speer:

At the stated meeting of the Presbytery of Chicago on December 2, attention was called to the fact that your beloved and distinguished husband had passed away. Dr. Harrison Ray Anderson, pastor of Fourth Presbyterian Church in Chicago, paid a sincere and beautiful tribute to Dr. Speer, who rendered such distinguished service to Christ and the Church as Secretary of the Foreign Mission Board. Dr. Anderson recalled having heard some of Dr. Speer's wonderful addresses in the interests of foreign missions, which recalled to my own memory the times when I also heard him and was thrilled by him. I remember particularly, I think it was in Pittsburgh in 1931, I heard him give a wonderful address in connection with the hundredth anniversary of our foreign mission effort in the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. Dr. Anderson was asked to lead in prayer, and in the course of the prayer asked God to raise up another young man who might do for the coming generation what Dr. Speer had done for his.

I was instructed as Stated Clerk of the Presbytery to write to you and to extend to you our sincere sympathy in your bereavement. God bless you.

Faithfully,

William McInnes

William McInnes
Stated Clerk

Evangelical Pa

The Pennsylvania Woman's Synodical Missionary Society
of the
Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.

Dear Mrs. Speer: -

The Executive Committee of the Pennsylvania Synodical, meeting for the first time since Dr. Speer was called home, wishes to extend to you its deepest sympathy in your great loss.

Some of us have known Dr. Speer for many years, and have felt his great spiritual help both in the Student Volunteer Movement, and later in the Missionary Work of the Presbyterian Church U. S. A.

However, the memory we most cherish was the privilege of meeting with the Synod of Pennsylvania in the morning devotions led by Dr. Speer. It seemed to us that he really was walking with God.

Very sincerely yours,

(Mrs. A. K.) Mary M. M^e Jenkins

Cor. Sec.

Jan. 30, 1948

World's Young Women's Christian Association
Alliance Universelle des Unions Chrétiennes de Jeunes Filles
Christlicher Weltbund Weiblicher Jugend

President : Miss Lilace R. Barnes

General Secretary : Miss Helen Roberts
Assistant General Secretary : Miss M. Marianne Mills

Telegrams : Soromundi, Geneva
Telephone 2.60.93

Headquarters :
37, Quai Wilson, Geneva, Switzerland

December 18, 1947

Mrs Robert E. Speer
LAKESIDE
Conn. - U.S.A.

Dear Mrs Speer,

The members of the Executive Committee and Council and Staff of the World's Y.W.C.A. at present at Geneva want to send you a message of affection and sympathy. We have just heard of Dr. Speer's death. Though few if any of us here have ever had the privilege of knowing him, we know from Miss Rouse and others that he has been a wonderful source of inspiration and stimulus to those who have been our leaders and so through them to us. And we have all at least read of what he meant in the early days of the Student Volunteer Movement and of the Student Y.W.C.A. And so we recognize with thanksgiving that his spirit lives on in the YWCA in many countries.

We want to thank you also because of all that you have brought to the World's YWCA and to the American YWCA over so many years. We know that what you have given us has been partly the result of that partnership in work for the Kingdom which has made so rich the lives of both yourself and Dr. Speer.

With affectionate thoughts of you in the time of your need, and with prayer that you will meet that need with his own comfort and strength

Ever yours sincerely

Catherine Picos
Hazel Thomas *Trine Piller*
Helen Morton
Marianne Mills

P.S. As you know, our new Executive Committee, our President and Geneva Secretaries, new and old, are scattered over the earth on their several ways home from the Hangchow Meeting of the World's Council. No doubt you have heard from some of them. This is just from the group which happens to be in Geneva.

W. Sherman Skinner, D. D.
East Liberty Presbyterian
Church
Penn & Highland Avenues
Pittsburgh 6, Pennsylvania



✓
East Liberty Presbyterian Church

Penn and Highland Avenues

Pittsburgh, Pa.

December 18, 1947

My dear Mr. Speer,

You have been much on our minds and often in our prayers in these past weeks. The news of Dr. Speer's going came as a great shock to many of us here, and with special force to us in our family.

In one way or another he had meant a great deal to us. Little apart from the admiration and interest in which I had always held him since seminary days — from a distance — he had had part in some occasions which meant a very great deal to us personally, and the kind of part which only he could take. He was good enough to preach for me in Kermantown last year when I was recuperating after an operation, and was our house guest at that time. Then he preached at my installation here and supplied our pulpit here on September 2nd, when we were privileged to have him in our home once more.

Our boys, though they had really had little

East Liberty Presbyterian Church
Penn and Highland Avenues
Pittsburgh, Pa.

opportunity to know Dr. Speer, were deeply impressed by him and last September spoke of him as boys do not often speak of an older person. Mrs. Skinner wanted me, in writing you, to tell you how much it had meant to her personally to be able to know Dr. Speer for even a short time.

To have had to relinquish one of the truly great servants of Christ and stewards of the Church, but millions will always be better for his life and stronger for what he has meant to us.

I am sure that, mingled with your sense of loss, you are finding these days filled with memories of your years together which bring you much happiness.

I am enclosing herewith a Minutes adopted by our Session this week. Copies have also been sent to the Moderator and stated Clerk of the General Assembly.

Very sincerely yours,
H. Sherman Skinner

RESOLVED, That the Session of the East Liberty Presbyterian Church of Pittsburgh express its sorrow on hearing of the death of Dr. Robert E. Speer.

Born September 10, 1867, the son of a distinguished lawyer of Huntingdon, Pennsylvania, he graduated at the head of his class in Princeton College in 1889. After two years in Princeton Theological Seminary, he quit the study of divinity and without being ordained as a minister became a secretary of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions in 1891. For forty-six years thereafter, until reaching the retirement age of seventy, he continued as a secretary of the Board. No such period of service of any other secretary is known to us. And during the ten years of his so-called retirement he was instant in season, out of season, in preaching the glorious gospel of the blessed God. He was an omnivorous reader and a facile writer, the author of thirty-six scholarly books. At eighty years of age he went home to his Master. Could anyone give a better account of his stewardship?

Honors came to him, never were sought by him. He was a Master of Arts of Yale, a Doctor of Divinity of Edinburgh, a Doctor of Laws of Rutgers, of Otterbein, and of Washington and Jefferson, a Doctor of Letters of Juniata and of Princeton. He was elected Moderator of the General Assembly by acclamation. Was any other moderator ever so elected? He served as President of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America. He was at the time of his death and had been for many years President of the Board of Trustees of Princeton Theological Seminary.

In a large group of Protestant ministers whose votes were taken not long since on the question who was the greatest preacher in America, the largest vote was for Robert E. Speer. But his preaching was no finer than his practice. He was selfless, and he was Christlike. We may say of him as Chaucer said of the Parson in the Canterbury Tales,

"He taught Christ's and his twelve apostles' creed,
And first in living of it took the lead."

In his services to this church Dr. Speer was outstanding. He preached here repeatedly through as many decades as any of us can remember. He was the evening preacher on the day when our present church was dedicated in 1935. He was the morning preacher on the tenth anniversary of its dedication. He preached the sermon at the installation of our present pastor. Of all the heroes and heroines of the faith depicted in the windows of our church only one figure represented a living person; that person was Robert E. Speer. And now we record in our minutes our gratitude to God for the life of a noble and humble follower of Jesus Christ, lately with us and henceforth ever with the Lord.

"Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God."

RESOLVED, That copies of the foregoing resolution be sent by the Moderator and Clerk of this Session to the worthy and devoted wife of Dr. Speer and to the Moderator and Stated Clerk of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

Bethania, N. C.
January 6, 1948

Miss Margaret Bailey Speer
Shipley School
Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania

Dear Miss Speer,

The Minister's Conference of the Moravian Church in North Carolina was informed at its last meeting of the death of your father, Dr. Robert E. Speer. We noted with regret his passing from us and a resolution was passed asking me to write to Mrs. Speer and his other survivors expressing our deep sympathy and our appreciation for his life and work the influence of which extended far beyond his own denomination. The press dispatch did not give your mother's address that is why I am writing to you.

As you may know Dr. Speer was with us at our fall Retreat at Roaring Gap, North Carolina, in September. This was probably one of the last services which he rendered to his Lord and Master. It was an experience which we will remember always and the memory of his words and the influence of his spirit in those last days rest upon us like a great benediction.

Will you please convey our best wishes to Mrs. Speer and this expression of our gratitude that even we of this generation were able to come, if even for a short time, under the influence of his life and spirit?

Sincerely yours,

George S. Higgins

C
O
P
Y

November 28, 1947

The Board of Foreign Missions of the
Presbyterian Church in the USA
156 Fifth Avenue
New York 10, N. Y.

Dear Brethron:

Personally and on behalf of the Foreign Department of The Christian and Missionary Alliance, I desire to express a keen sense of loss and sorrow which we feel in the recent homegoing of Dr. Robert E. Speer.

Our Foreign Department was holding a three-day session at the time we learned of Dr. Speer's death, and I was requested to send word to you and to Mrs. Spoer, recording our high esteem of Dr. Speer and expressing our prayer and sympathy for the family and the Presbyterian Church.

Dr. Speer's ministry reached the whole church of Christ around the world. His life and leadership meant much to me in years gone by, and I cherish the memory of his fellowship and friendship in missionary service.

As veteran laborers and leaders pass onward, may we who remain receive fresh anointing and be enlarged in our ministries and experiences by the Holy Spirit unto more fruitful service in the Master's vineyard.

Very sincerely in Gospel bonds

ACS/LB

Foreign Secretary

The Presbytery of Lehigh
Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.

H. SPENCER EDMUNDS, D.D., STATED CLERK
333 SPRING GARDEN STREET
EASTON, PA.

Roseto, Pa.
November 25, 1947

Dear Mrs. Speer and Family:

The Presbytery of Lehigh, sitting in session in Roseto, Pennsylvania, desires to express, along with a host of similar notes you will be receiving, a deep and lasting gratitude for the faith, service and inspiration Dr. Speer has given to the whole Presbyterian Church at large, and to the thousands of us as individuals in particular.

There is a very real sense in which we all shall miss him and grieve his loss, but there is also a spiritual depth unfounded by space or time in which he still goes on to ever greater and higher things, and in this sense we join minds and hearts with him in the more blessed life and service in the Presence of the Master Himself. We, too, shall miss him, but we glory in his translation.

Our friends in Christ, we want you to know that in thoughts and prayers you are in our minds and hearts. This note is sent not only in a sense of sympathy, but more particularly as a Gloria in excelsis Deo for him who lived and died in Christ, and ever moves on to greater things.

Yours in Christ's Service,

Walter H. Eastwood

W. H. Eastwood, Chairman
for the Presbytery of Lehigh

THE PRESBYTERY OF PITTSBURGH

WALTER L. MOSER, Stated Clerk
128 Hawthorne Avenue, Edgewood
Pittsburgh 18, Pa.

January 6, 1948

Mrs. Robert E. Speer
Lakeville, Connecticut

Dear Mrs. Speer:

At its last regular meeting, the Pittsburgh Presbytery directed that its very deep sympathy to you in the loss of your distinguished husband be expressed by formal action.

Dr. Speer came often to Pittsburgh and was held in high esteem by Presbytery and its constituency. The Church will be vastly poorer in the loss of his personal friendship, as well as of his knowledge of the work of the Church and of its needs.

The Presbytery, by formal action, was led in prayer in your behalf, and it desires to assure you and your family of its deepest sympathy.

Faithfully yours,



Stated Clerk

N.B. During my absence in the War, Dr. Speer conducted Week of Prayer Services in Edgewood Church, of which I have been Pastor, and the people appreciated the helpful messages that he brought.

W.L.M.

THE LARCHMONT AVENUE CHURCH

LARCHMONT, NEW YORK

FLOYD E. McGUIRE
Minister

Telephone
LARCHMONT 2-0845

November 28, 1947.

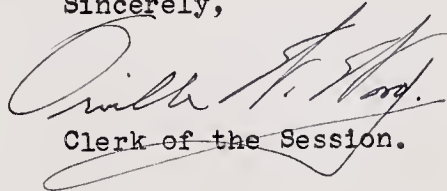
Mrs. Robert E. Speer,
Lakeville, Conn.

Dear Mrs. Speer:

The Session of The Larchmont Avenue Church wishes to express to you our deep sympathy in the passing of your husband.

Dr. Speer is affectionately remembered in our congregation. He officiated at the installation of our former minister, Dr. Robert M. Russell, and he occupied our pulpit on many occasions. His visits were always welcome. We share in the loss of a friend who was an inspiring leader and a great Christian gentleman.

Sincerely,



Clerk of the Session.

CLASS OF SERVICE

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WESTERN UNION

JOSEPH L. EGAN
PRESIDENT

1208

SYMBOLS

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MISS MARGARET SPEER, HEAD MISTRESS=

THE SHIPLEY SCHOOL BRYN MAWR PENN=

YOUR WIRE RECEIVED CONNIE AND I SEND LOVING SYMPATHY TO YOU TO YOUR MOTHER AND THE MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY DR. SPEER WAS ONE OF THE GREATEST MEN AND TRUEST CHRISTIANS I HAVE EVER KNOWN AND I SHALL ALWAYS BE GRATEFUL THAT I HAD THE PRIVILEGE OF FRIENDSHIP AND OF SERVICE WITH HIM IN THE FOREIGN MISSION CAUSE WE PRAY THAT YOU MAY HAVE THE STRENGTH AND COMFORT OF CHRIST AND OF THE SURE HOPE OF THE RESURRECTION AND OF REUNION IN HIM=

W R WHEELER • LATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

Yale-China Association

YALE-IN-CHINA ASSOCIATION

to the Chinese People

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and Assistant Treasurer

AMERICAN OFFICE

117 Wall Street, New Haven, Conn.

Mail: 905A Yale Station

Telephone: New Haven 7-3131 - Ext. 554

November 26, 1947

Mrs. Robert E. Speer
c/o Miss Margaret Speer
Shipley School
Bryn Mawr, Pa.

Dear Mrs. Speer:

On the day I received the word about Dr. Speer I wrote Margaret and also telegraphed her, sending to her and to you and the family, our sympathy and love. When I received the word about Dr. Speer I felt much as I did when I had the telegram and later the cable telling of the home-going of my father and then some years later of my mother. I can not express any better than that my love for Dr. Speer and the feeling of emptiness and of loneliness when the word came that he had gone on into the other world.

I was thinking of him when I was watching the Yale-Harvard football game on the 22nd and planned to send to him the program of the game which contained a picture of football players back in 1889 and of the costumes that they wore as drawn by Frederick Remington. I thought that Dr. Speer would enjoy the picture and the references because of his own stalwart place in the Princeton varsity football team and his memories of brave battles with Yale. I think he will know and understand the thought and remembrance and it is an inexpressible comfort to have the assurance of seeing him again in the other world. I thought the quotation from "Pilgrim's Progress" read by Dr. Coffin yesterday was most appropriate and certainly no one would have a warmer welcome from loving friends and fellow-servants of Christ than ~~and~~ he.

In the biography of John E. Williams there is quoted a letter from Dr. Walter Lowrie to Mrs. Williams in which he said:

"The thought is restful to me that your Jack, my friend, has tasted for several days and knows that 'to depart and be with Christ is far better.' Oh, how far better, we who are on this side cannot even dream.

"It is like the Lord Jesus to arrange that there shall be no sense of strangeness, no alarm, but just like the awakening in the midst of gentle, tender, eager friends; for love is the atmosphere of the place, and arrivals from among those for whom Jesus lived and died are members of the heavenly family at once. And through your loving ministry, Jack knows full well what the peace and joy of an earthly family can be.

"And the sight of Jack over there will turn the dear Lord's mind (I speak now as a man) to the one--the ones--for whom he lived and who needs her Lord's daily and hourly shepherd care. Said He--'I will never leave thee nor forsake thee.'

"Jack's old friend,
"Walter Lowrie."

All this we know, but I know too how sadly you will miss Dr. Speer and I wanted to add this note of assurance to you of our sympathy and love.

The Yale-in-China staff here , which includes Miss Rachel A. Dowd, who has served here for more than 25 years, and knew and admired Dr. Speer, join in this message of sympathy and remembrance.

Dean Weigle also asked that I express to you his sympathy for you and the family and his great respect for Dr. Speer.

Sincerely yours,

W. Reginald Wheeler

W. Reginald Wheeler

WRW:bhh

YALE-IN-CHINA ASSOCIATION

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AMERICAN OFFICE

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November 14, 1947

Dr. Robert E. Speer
Rockledge
Lakeville, Connecticut

Dear Dr. Speer:

Enclosed are some notes I took on a talk by Major General Maxwell Taylor, Commandant at West Point, when he spoke to the Officers' Reserve meeting on October 27, 1947. I thought you would be interested in his observations, which fit into a statement you made in one of your books about the qualities which are considered as "soldierly," namely "discipline and austerity." I am sending also, under separate cover, a copy of the Yale Alumni Magazine for November 1947, which contains two articles about Yale-in-China, one on pages 20C and 20D and one, an advertisement, on pages 24 and 25. We have reached a total of approximately \$160,000 thus far, but still have a good distance to travel to cross the \$400,000 goal line.

Pete is playing fullback on the Freshman Soccer Team. There is a reference to him on page 20B. They play Princeton tomorrow, on the same day that the Varsity Football Team plays. Princeton is always an unpredictable and formidable opponent and the outcome of both games will be very close. I was interested in an article in the November 9, 1947 "New York Times Magazine" on certain very exciting football games as witnessed by Arthur Daley of the New York Times Sports Staff and past president of the Football Writers Association. I think Mike Sweeney would have been very interested in that article. There was a reference in it to the Army-Notre Dame Game of 1928. The Army had not been beaten that season and the Notre Dame coach, Knute Rockne, called on the inspiration of the spirit of a former Notre Dame player, George Gipp, who had died about five years before. I thought you would be interested in the incident as recorded by the writer of the article:

"Gipp was one of football's immortals, a man endowed with every talent needed to be a gridiron superman. But pneumonia cut short his career, and Rockne himself was at his bedside when he died.

"That bleak November day in 1928 the Fighting Irish, facing insuperable odds, had played over their heads to hold Army down to a scoreless tie in the first half. It seemed

Dr. Speer
Page 2
November 14, 1947

physically impossible for them to hold to that gait in the second half--not unaided. So Rockne, the psychologist, gave them that aid. In a voice dripping with emotion, he told them the story of the death of the Gipper. He told them how George Gipp had summoned him and said:

"Sometime, Rock, when the team's up against it, when things are wrong and breaks are beating the boys, tell them to go in there and win one just for the Gipper. I don't know where I'll be then, Rock, but I'll know about it and be happy."

"The vibrant voice of Rockne grew still. His gaze swept the dressing room and saw moist-eyed youngsters choking back sobs.

"Boys," he said simply, "this is that game."

"Notre Dame yielded a touchdown but made one for itself in a frenzied second half. It was 6-6 when Johnny O'Brien, a forgotten and little-used track man, cast off his blanket on the sidelines and raced into the fray. Then he raced down the field, gathered in a pass from Johnny Niemic for the winning touchdown and raced off the field again. He's since been immortalized as One-Play Johnny O'Brien, as the Irish won one 'just for the Gipper.'"

I remember Mike Sweeney saying once before a game "Spirit is a million times stronger than flesh." And that game was evidently won by the superiority of the spirit over the flesh.

As an Officer in the Reserve, I took part in the Parade and Ceremony of the Reserve Corps in honor of the war dead, first returned from Europe to New York, and also took part in the Reserve Parade and Ceremony on Armistice Day. The spectators and troops on the day of the return of the overseas dead seemed really deeply impressed, and it was a moving experience to have a part in the tribute to the dead. I took part especially because of my nephew, my sister's younger son, who was killed in Germany in October 1944. I have marched in other parades, when the people cheered enthusiastically and applauded as we moved up the Avenue, but when the flag-covered caisson moved along Fifth Avenue, with the coffin of the one soldier chosen to represent the 6,000 dead who had been brought back to New York, the people were obviously moved; there was no applause, but there were visible tears. The band did not play martial airs, but hymns like, "Ein Festeberg," "The Churches' One Foundation," and "Ten Thousand Times Ten Thousand." In the Park, a 21-gun salute was fired while we stood at attention and you could almost see and feel the presence of the spirits of the boys who had died for their country, whom we were remembering that day, and for whom taps sounded at the end of the ceremony.

I had the same feeling when we marched on Armistice Day, when the band played "O Mother Dear Jerusalem." I had the feeling that the spirit of my twin brother, who, as you know, was a Captain in the other war, and a Major in the Reserve, was marching along with us, with the beautiful American flags massed in formation ahead of us and rippling in the sunlight as we moved up the Avenue.

Dr. Speer
Page 3
November 14, 1947

I can't help believing that the spirits of those who have gone on are much nearer to us than we realize and that they come especially close in times of unusual sorrow, temptation and also of exaltation and joy.

I am writing up for the Infantry Journal an account of the two parades. Perhaps it may have too much religion in it to be accepted, but I will try, and see what happens.

We have still held our apartment in New York, but a relative of one of the trustees has kindly allowed us to stay in the home formerly owned by Mr. and Mrs. Bliss, and we are very comfortably situated there when we are in New Haven. We may rent or buy later, depending on the lumber market and how this work progresses.

Connie joins in love and best wishes to you and Mrs. Speer,

Sincerely yours,



W. Reginald Wheeler

wrw:mrt

p.s. The Princeton Varsity Football Team completely outclassed the Yale Eleven on Saturday and deserved to win as they did 17-0. The Freshman Soccer Team, on which Pete played, did better, winning 2-0, as did the Yale Varsity Soccer Team. You would have enjoyed seeing the Princeton students pull down the goal post in celebration of the deserved victory of the Varsity.

ADDRESS BY
MAJOR GENERAL MAXWELL D. TAYLOR
COMMANDANT, WEST POINT

October 27, 1947

Major General Maxwell D. Taylor, Commandant, West Point, spoke to the meeting of the Manhattan Chapter of the Reserve Officers Association at the Essex House, West 59th Street, New York on "The Psychology of Leadership." The following notes of his address were made by William R. Wheeler, Major, T.C. Reserve.

I want to speak this evening on the problem of leading a nation in arms. There is a variety of military experience before me tonight, which is formidable. I know from experience that generalizations are dangerous. What I will present tonight are my own personal views, but they are sincere and I believe the problems which I name are those which confront officers in time of war.

I was a graduate of the military academy in 1922, our education in the academy and during the peace years was well planned but it did not fit me to command troops in war. That was because the educators were thinking of a peacetime army. There are two differences between a peacetime and a wartime army. In the peacetime army there are two classes of men, one the professional non-commissioned officer. As one who served as a second lieutenant for 7 years and as a first lieutenant for 5 years, I speak with appreciation of the indispensable cooperation of the non-commissioned officers whom I knew. They were loyal and patient; they knew about making out the morning report so that all the officer had to do was to sign on the right line, and they did much of the work for the officer, and for which the officer received credit. But in war time these non-commissioned officers disappeared. Many of them were 55 to 60 years of age. They were too old for combat and were made MP's or transferred into the supply organizations and the experienced non-commissioned officers whom we had known vanished overnight.

In peacetime the private soldiers were not of a high class. They did what they were told. They would often get drunk Saturday night but they were no great problem for the officers.

In wartime there was a radical change, both in the non-commissioned officers and in the privates. We suddenly had millions of men to handle, the best and the worst, the loyal and the subversive, and we were challenged to make them into a fighting machine.

You who entered the army for the first time felt strange. The professional officers felt equally strange.

- I. I want to speak in the first place tonight on the OUTSTANDING CHARACTERISTICS OF A NATION IN ARMS. This subject is important because if war should reoccur we would have to face and try to solve the problems related to these characteristics.

Most of us here tonight come from the East. Here there is more concern with the international problems than in other areas. I come from Missouri and that in more than one sense. The first characteristic of new soldiers is:

1. Their suspicion of the army. The new soldiers fear a controlling organization. They must be taught, and must learn that the virtues they learned at their mother's knee still stand and they should be faithful to them in this new relationship.

- II. 2. Resentment towards Discipline The average American and the average American soldier does not like to be bossed around. This attitude probably again goes back to our pioneer forbears who were opposed to tyranny. It is expressed at the ball games in the boos we hear of the umpire. The average American likes to give authority a Bronx cheer. We must expect that critical tendency and attitude on the part of the new soldiers. We must sell to them the army bill of goods, and the necessity of recognition of discipline and obedience to orders if the soldiers are to go where you want them to go in combat.

3. Individualism. Soldiers do not like to be considered as serial numbers. He wants to feel he is considered as an individual. Every commanding officer must understand this.

4. Americans desire to know the "why" ~~type~~ of orders they are expected to obey. Why should we build this road? Why should we attack at a certain hour? This is a terrific problem. The enthusiasm and dash which are needed in combat will come if the troops know the "why" and the "how" of their orders. A statement by General Von Sternberg is used at West Point. The statement consists of only 2 sentences. They were uttered by the General during the American revolution, but they are true today. "The genius of the American nation is not to be compared with that of the German, Australian or French. In those armies, you say "do this". But to the American army, I have to say "This is why you are to do this.""

5. A false impression exists of army life which makes it difficult for the inductees when they enter the service. As a nation, we do not know what the army is all about or what war is about. There is a lot of misinformation and misconception concerning the army and concerning war. Perhaps the movies are in part responsible and also the stage. They give the impression, which is supplied by a play like "What Price Glory?". The impression is that war is a gory affair and that combat is continuous and bloody. The new soldiers

must learn that in war your life will not change very much from that which existed during maneuvers. It will be a few unpleasant and bloody incidents, and experiences; but they are not characteristic of combat service on the whole. War is not as bad as it is painted. Take for example the 101st Airborne. The paratroopers were green. Some of them jumped right into the Germans below and for six hours were engaged in real combat. One of them said afterward: "I have looked on these Krauts inside and outside. They don't look so good either way." In other words, those green troops through their initial combat got over the jitters and conquered their fear of the enemy and they found combat was not as terrible as they had expected. On the other hand, some of our amphibious troops who had not had the initial combat experience had to be driven to make contact. Later, they improved. Their trouble was we had not given them the right education. Their experiences were too overwhelming in their first combat.

Another misconception caused often by the movies and the stage is that of KP. There is an idea among new troops that nothing is as disagreeable as KP, but really KP is not so bad.

Another misconception in peacetime is that concerning rank. I want to say emphatically that I believe the private soldier won the war. Rank in peacetime is not really important, although it has to be recognized, but in war true recognition of rank is important. Some of the standards of peacetime courtesy and formalities are not important in war, but it is important that troops should recognize their officers authority in time of combat and should follow their orders.

II. MEASURES THAT HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN MEETING THE PROBLEMS RELATED TO THE OUTSTANDING CHARACTERISTICS OF THE NATION IN ARMS.

1. The newly arrived troops should receive the right induction into their combat unit.

The attrition at the front was serious. There were losses through killing and sickness. Some divisions replaced themselves four or five times. The new replacements were kept in one place when they arrived near the front. The divisional commander talked to them. These newly arrived troops had been reasonably well trained at home but they had traveled for days, they had had to lie around in depots and had been kicked about and had lost their morale and their self-respect and had lost much of their worth as soldiers. The divisional commander in his speeches to them would say "I know you have been through a lot. Don't worry about action up front. We have in the division the know how of fighting. We can teach you how to keep alive up front. We have a veteran outfit, the division is now your home. We expect you to be loyal. You are taking the place of men wounded and killed in action and you must do your duty for them as well as for the division and your unit."

Such a reception, if sincere and warm, will do away with the suspicion which often characterizes the newly arrived troops.

I thought Marshal Montgomery was one of the best combat commanders in his emphasis on the necessity of the of the right briefing of troops going into combat. In our division we tried to make sure that every man in the 82nd and the 101st Airborne knew what we had to do before the attack. We would have the operation map available and each paratrooper would study the different localities and would understand his assignment in relation to them. They must know not only where they were to land, but they must be able to go forward with their missions.

We dropped 6,000 paratroopers in Normandy and they were scattered over many miles. A number of them had interesting and at times amusing experiences. For instance, a Lt. Brown hit the ground in the darkness on D-day morning about 2 hours before daybreak. He told me later he thought he had been dropped far to the south of his designated position, so he started to work North in the darkness. At daybreak he came to a signpost and climbed up it. He found that it read: "Cherbourg 2 miles". In other words, he was 20 days ahead of the scheduled position of his division. He was right in the middle of the Germans but was able to extricate himself and he came through alive.

Regardless of our faults, we produced an army in wartime of which we should be proud, the greatest fighting force we have ever brought forth, an army that knew how to fight and did fight successfully.

I have been asked how we, as a non-military nation, could produce such a fighting force. Our troops fought not for the four freedoms, so much as they fought out of self respect and because of their high morale.

I often wondered why troops wanted to be paratroopers. The dangers, I think, were overrated, but they volunteered for what they thought was danger. I asked one paratrooper "Do you like to jump?" He replied, "No, sir, but I like to be with men who do like to jump."

He wanted to be with such men and would not be turned from going with them.

I have heard the wounded say, "we did not retreat for we ~~did~~ not let our comrades down". In his combat service, duty was the right hand of the soldier and morale was his left hand. There was good spirit between the officers and soldiers among the paratroopers because they both jumped together. The officers did not have special cars or special billets as in peacetime.

True
I was in command of the 82nd airborne. ~~Through~~ discipline is to surrender yourself to your unit so that you will give your life in its service. The great generals know the reality, the importance, the necessity of such discipline. Generals like Caesar, Napoleon,

the commanding generals in the army of Northern Virginia. We worry in peacetime about trivial details but the fundamentals are those of which I have spoken.

If every officer will do his full duty, mistakes will be avoided. Success in combat is dependent upon the officer corps. I have never reprimanded a private more than two or three times, but I have given officers plenty of hell, when the troops were not in proper uniform, were not shaven, etc. I used to fine the officer responsible \$25 and I found that was a great help in their keeping the troops in order.

By and large, the officers corps was an able one with a small minority who were not so able. From this small minority, came the "gripes" of the malcontents. We should try to correct the mistakes made in this war. We should remember that changing clothes does not change a man. A selfish man will be a selfish officer. Character cannot be changed overnight just by putting on a uniform. Every school or university should impress the troops on its standards that rank has its privileges, but also the privileges of obligation, "noblesse oblige." When this principle is understood by every officer, the private soldiers will take care of themselves.

It was a great challenge and a great privilege to have led American troops in combat and they have witnessed their loyalty and esprit de corps and their morale. These troops made up the greatest fighting organization the world has ever known -- the American Army.

After his address, Major General Taylor answered questions. He said that West Point would continue to instruct both the air force and the army officers. He also said, you cannot run an army on the pay motive. One of the problems that must be solved is the lack of feeling of the importance of the work of the Reserve and loyalty and morale there cannot be produced merely by the pay motive, but must come from much deeper sentiments and loyalties.